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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/686,290	10/15/2003	George Gao	131026-1	7089
41838 7590 06/28/2007 GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY (PCPI) C/O FLETCHER YODER P. O. BOX 692289 HOUSTON, TX 77269-2289			EXAMINER NGUYEN, TUYEN T	
			ART UNIT 2832	PAPER NUMBER
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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.



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**BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES**

Application Number: 10/686,290  
Filing Date: October 15, 2003  
Appellant(s): GAO ET AL.

**MAILED**  
**JUN 28 2007**  
**GROUP 2800**

GEORGE GAO et al.  
For Appellant

**EXAMINER'S ANSWER**

This is in response to the appeal brief filed 02/01/2007 appealing from the Office action mailed 07/13/2006.

**(1) Real Party in Interest**

A statement identifying by name the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

**(2) Related Appeals and Interferences**

The examiner is not aware of any related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

**(3) Status of Claims**

The statement of the status of claims contained in the brief is correct.

**(4) Status of Amendments After Final**

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in the brief is correct.

**(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter**

The summary of claimed subject matter contained in the brief is correct.

**(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal**

The appellant's statement of the grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal is correct.

**(7) Claims Appendix**

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

**(8) Evidence Relied Upon**

US 4,095,205	SCHROEDER et al.	06-1978
JP 2001-196241	Kurita et al.	07-2001

**(9) Grounds of Rejection**

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 33 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kurita et al. [JP 2001-196241].

Kurita et al. discloses an insulating system [5] including a plurality of layers [6, 7] arranged alternatively, wherein the layers formed of polymeric and non-polymeric materials [see abstract.]

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-4, 6-8 and 29-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schroeder et al. [US 4,095,205] in view of Kurita et al. [JP 2001-196241].

Schroeder et al. discloses a layer insulation system [figure 2] for an oil filled environment comprising:

- a plurality of insulating units [42], each of the plurality of insulating units comprising first and second layers of insulating material;

Art Unit: 2832

at least one of the first and second layers comprising a polymeric material, the insulating units positioned with respect to each other such that the second layer of one insulating unit adjacent to the first layer of another insulating unit, wherein the polymeric material is polyethylene terephthalate.

wherein the plurality of insulating units terminates at a terminal layer having thereon a third layer [44] of paper insulating material.

wherein the thickness of the layers from about 0.5 mil to about 20 mil.

Schroeder et al. discloses the instant claimed invention except for the first layer comprises non-polymeric material [or paper insulating material] and the second layer comprises the polymeric material.

Kurita et al. discloses insulation system [5] for oil filled environment comprising first and second layers [7, 6], wherein the first layer comprises insulating kraft paper and the second layer comprises polypropylene material.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use material of insulating system of Kurita et al. in Schroeder et al. for the purpose of enhancing strength and reducing cost.

#### **(10) Response to Argument**

Applicant argues that:

[1] The finality of the office action mailed 7/13/2006 was improper.

[2] Regarding claim 33, Kurita et al. fails to teach *alternating layers* of polymeric and non-polymeric materials.

[3] Regarding claims 1, 29, 33, 38 and 42, it's presumed that the combination proposed by the Examiner would replace at least these paper [aromatic polyamide fiber papers] of Schroeder et al. with the kraft paper layer of Kurita. The resulting structure would not read on that recited in each of the independent claims. In particular, all of the independent claims require polymeric and non-polymeric or paper layers. Neither reference teaches alternating disposition of these layers.

[4] Regarding claim 3, neither reference teaches alternating layers of non-polymeric material and polymeric material. Claim 3 includes an additional layer, a terminal layer that includes a paper insulating material. Schroeder does not disclose five layers of insulating material, where the insulation is alternated between a non-polymeric and a polymeric material.

Examiner disagrees.

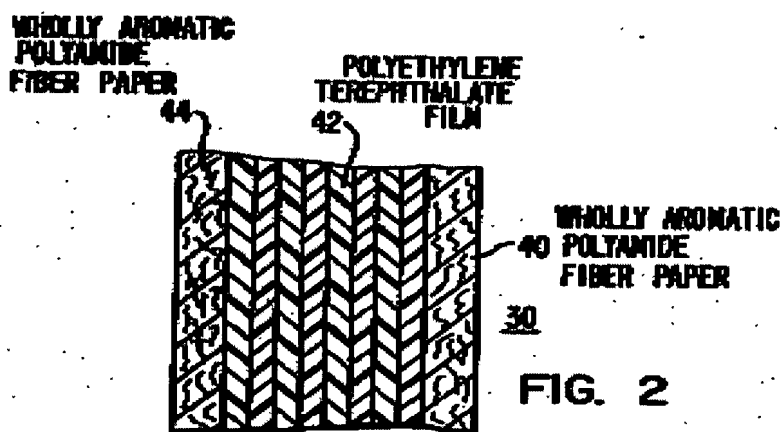
Regarding [1], applicant amendments, paper filed 9/19/2005, necessitated the introduction of a new ground of rejection.

Regarding [2], Kurita et al. discloses more than two layers [6 and 7, see the enclosed translation, page 3, paragraph 15]. When using more than two layers structure, alternating layers will be inherently disclosed.

Regarding [3], applicant misunderstood the ground of rejections presented by the Examiner. Schroeder et al. discloses [see attachment of figure 2] an insulation system for an oil filled environment comprising 4 insulating units, each unit including two layers of polyethylene terephthalate [S-PET] and terminated with a terminal layer [40 or 44] of insulating material. Schroeder discloses the instant claimed invention except for one of layer of the two layers of each unit formed of non-polymeric material. Kurita et al. discloses an insulating system having

Art Unit: 2832

one unit formed of two or more layers [6, 7], wherein one layer is formed of kraft paper and the other formed of polypropylene material. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to replace the insulating units of Schroeder et al. by the insulating unit of Kurita for the purpose of enhancing strength and reducing cost. When replacing the insulating unit of Schroeder et al. with the unit [5] of Kurita et al., the resulting structure would have *alternating layers* with terminal layer [40 or 44] terminated at one end thereof.



4 insulating units each containing  
two layers [42] of polyethylene terephthalate

#### (11) Related Proceeding(s) Appendix

No decision rendered by a court or the Board is identified by the examiner in the Related Appeals and Interferences section of this examiner's answer.

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,

Art Unit: 2832

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